Serial No. 10/573,094

Filed: December 18, 2006

Art Unit: 3753

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph at page 2, line 20 and replace it with the following

paragraphs:

Fig. 5A is a perspective complete plan view of a third embodiment of a cold water

isolation valve according to the invention;

Fig. 5A1 is a complete section view of the valve of Fig. 5A illustrating flow from the first

port to the second port;

Fig. 5A2 is a complete section view of the valve of Fig. 5A1 illustrating flow through the

drain port;

Please delete the paragraph at page 2, line 22 and replace it with the following

paragraphs:

Fig. 5B is side plan view of the third embodiment of a cold water isolation valve

according to the invention;

Fig. 5B1 is a complete section view of the value of Fig. 5B;

Please delete the paragraph at page 2, line 24 and replace it with the following

paragraphs:

Fig. 6A is a perspective complete plan view of a third embodiment of a hot water

isolation valve according to the invention;

Fig. 6A1 is a complete section view of the valve of Fig. 6A illustrating flow from the first

port to the second port;

Fig. 6A2 is a complete section view of the valve of Fig. 6A1 illustrating flow through the

drain port;

Please delete the paragraph at page 2, line 26 and replace it with the following

paragraphs:

Fig. 6B is a side <u>plan</u> view of the third embodiment of a hot water isolation valve

according to the invention;

Fig. 6B1 is a complete section view of the value of Fig. 6B;

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Please delete the paragraph at page 4, line 7 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Referring to Fig. 5A and 5B Figs. 5A, 5A1, 5A2, 5B and 5B1, a further illustrative cold water isolation valve 500 according to the invention is shown and includes a first cold water port 502, a second cold water port 504 and a cold water drain port 506 having a drain valve 501. In this further illustrative embodiment, the drain valve 501 is a ball valve fitted with a drain valve handle 507. The drain valve handle 507 is a one leaf handle that allows actuation of the drain valve 501 in a more compact valve design. It is contemplated within the scope of the invention that the drain valve 501 can be without a handle and be actuated by a set screw, any handle configuration or the like. It is also contemplated within the scope of the invention that the drain valve 501 can be other than a ball valve such as a traditional stem and valve seat design or the like.

Please delete the paragraph at page 4, line 16 and replace it with the following paragraph:

The cold water isolation valve 500 defines a cold water flow ehannel path 503 and a cold water drain ehannel path 505, illustrated in Fig. 5A1 and Fig. 5A2 respectively, wherein the cold water flow ehannel path 503 is disposed to communicate the first cold water port 502 with the second cold water port 504 and wherein the cold water drain ehannel path 505 is disposed to communicate the first cold water port 502 with the cold water drain port 506. The cold water isolation valve 500 also includes a flow diversion device, such as a ball valve 509, disposed within a valve portion 508. The ball valve 509 is actuated with a butterfly handle 511. It is contemplated within the scope of this invention that the ball valve 509 can be actuated with a single lever handle, set screw, circular handle or the like. The valve portion 508 is disposed between the first cold water port 502, second cold water port 504 and cold water drain port 506. Moreover, the flow diversion device is configurable between a first configuration, i.e. to open the cold water flow ehannel path 503, and a second configuration, i.e. to open the cold water drain ehannel path 505, via the ball valve 509.

Please delete the paragraph at page 4, line 28 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Turning to Fig. 5B and Fig. 5B1, a side plan view and a cut-a-way side view of the flow diversion device [[is]] are shown. In a first configuration, the cold water flow is between the

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first cold water port 502 and second cold water port 504. The ball valve 509 has a second configuration wherein cold water flow is between the first cold water port 502 and cold water drain port 506. Advantageously, the drain port 506 may be fitted with the drain valve 501, which allows a operator of the valve 500 the ability to check flow within the second configuration while affixing a drainage or pumping device to the cold water drain port 506. The first cold water port 502 has a union connection 533 with a threaded portion (female) allowing for reliable sealing of the cold water isolation valve 500 within a plumbing system. The union connection 533 has a union nut 534 that sealably attaches the cold water isolation valve to the plumbing system with the use of a union washer 513. The union connection 533 further contains an insulator [[505]] 535 formed of a polymeric material. The insulator [[505]] 535 precludes galvanic action that might occur when a nipple or a pipe connecting to the valve 500 is iron or a metal dissimilar to the valve 500.

Please delete the paragraph at page 5, line 28 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Referring to Fig. 6A and 6B Figs. 6A, 6A1, 6A2, 6B, and 6B1, a hot water isolation valve 600 is shown and includes a first hot water port 602, a second hot water port 604, a hot water relief port 606 and a hot water drain port 608. The hot water drain port 608 is fitted with a drain port valve 601. The hot water isolation valve 600 defines a hot water flow channel 603 and a hot water drain channel 605. The hot water flow channel 603 provides fluid communication between the first hot water port 602 and the second hot water port 604. The hot water flow channel 603 is also open to the hot water relief port 606. The hot water drain channel 605 provides fluid communication between the first hot water port 602 and the hot water drain port 608 having a drain port valve 601. The hot water drain channel 605 is also open to the hot water relief port 606. The hot water isolation valve 600 includes a ball valve 609 as a flow diversion device, disposed within a valve portion 610 between first hot water port 602, second hot water port 604, hot water relief port 606 and hot water drain port 608 having the drain port valve 601. Moreover, the ball valve 609 is configurable between a first configuration and a second configuration via a handle 612. In a first configuration, the hot water flow is between first hot water port 602, second hot water port 604, and hot water relief port 606. In a second

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configuration the hot water flow is between first hot water port 602, hot water drain port 608 and

hot water relief port 606.

Please delete the paragraph at page 6, line 16 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Turning to Fig. 6B and 6B1, a side plan and a cut-a-way side view of the flow diversion

device [[is]] are shown. In a first configuration hot water flow is between first hot water port

602 and second hot water port 604. The flow diversion device, ball valve 609, has a second

configuration wherein hot water flow is between first hot water port 602 and hot water drain port

608. Advantageously, the drain port 608 is fitted with the drain valve (not shown), which allows

a user of the hot water isolation valve 600 the ability to check flow within the second

configuration while affixing a drainage or pumping device to the hot water drain port 608.

Please delete the paragraph at page 7, line 4 and replace it with the following paragraph:

According to the invention, the ball valve 609 allows for at least two configurations of

fluid flow. A ball 620 forming the ball valve 609 is seated within the valve body with a first

polymeric valve seat 622, a second polymeric valve seat 623, a third polymeric valve seat 627

and a fourth polymeric valve seat 628. [[It]] <u>In</u> one illustrative embodiment the valve seats 622,

623, 627, 628 are formed of Teflon®. It is contemplated within the scope of the invention that

any polymeric material having sufficient sealing qualities may be used. The ball valve 609 is

positioned within the valve housing by way of a ball valve cap 630. Affixed to the ball 620 is a

valve stem 624. The valve stem 624 is sealably seated into the valve body with a polymeric

valve stem seat 626 and a valve stem nut [[628]] 629. Within the ball 620 geometric channels

allow for various flow diversions to and from the ports 602, 604 and hot water drain port 608.

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